ACAP

The Army's Transition Assistance Program and Reserve Component Soldiers

Army Career and Alumni Program

11 Feb 09

Army Career and Alumni Program (ACAP)

- Since 1990, ACAP provides:
  - Preseparation Counseling, mandated by Congress
  - Permanent Transition and Employment Assistance Centers
- 51 ACAP Centers worldwide
- Eligibility for RC Soldiers – completion of 180 days of continuous active duty
  - ACAP is utilized by Active Component (AC) Soldiers who are aware of their eligibility for Transition benefits and services, and who may need assistance in preparing for civilian employment
  - Eligible RC Soldiers can use ACAP for transition assistance too

ACAP Transition Services

- Preseparation Counseling on benefits and services
- Department of Labor Transition Assistance Program (TAP) Workshop (2.5 day)
- VA Benefits Briefing (4 hours) and the Disabled Transition Assistance Program (DTAP) (2 hours)
- Employment assistance: Resumes, Federal jobs, Job interview techniques, etc.
- Annually more than 50,000 Reserve Component Soldiers are eligible to be served in ACAP Centers

Reserve Component Soldiers and ACAP

- Rising unemployment among veterans indicated a need for Transition Services among all Soldiers
- RC Soldiers do not have time to utilize ACAP services during short window of demobilization, so there are multiple avenues of support:
  - In person at the nearest ACAP Center
  - Via email or telephone with an ACAP Counselor
  - Via the web at www.acap.army.mil
- ***ACAP Express*** launched in Feb 08 to make services more available to mobilized RC and deployed AC Soldiers

ACAP Website

- The ACAP website, www.acap.army.mil, is a wealth of self-service information, with distinct paths for Active and Reserve Component Soldiers
- Links to employers who want to hire Soldiers
- Other links such as:
  - U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs at www.va.gov, and/or U.S. Department of Labor at www.dol.gov
  - Turbo-TAP, the Transition Assistance Program (TAP) of the Department of Defense, located at www.turbotap.org , designed specifically for RC Soldiers

ACAP Express

- ACAP Express can be accessed by Active Duty Soldiers, both AC and RC
- From the ACAP home page www.acap.army.mil click on the “ACAP Express” link, or go directly to https://www.acapexpress.army.mil
- Provides access to ACAP services from any location
  - ACAP counselor working long-distance via email or telephone
  - 3-month window to ACAP Center calendars
  - Online tools
- When RC Soldiers leave active duty, they have an additional 180 days to use ACAP, and can still access ACAP Express

Assistance after Returning Home

- It is up to you to take advantage of ACAP while serving on active duty
- After returning home, RC Soldiers may find they need assistance
- ACAP is available for 180 days after REFRAD, and available for life for Army retirees (space available), including Reserve Component retirement –
  - In person at an ACAP Center
  - By phone or email if “home” is not near an ACAP Center
- The Department of Labor has “One Stop Career Centers” to provide employment assistance, with Veteran Representatives specifically to assist you www.dol.gov